S-1715.1

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5140

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Parks, Fish & Wildlife (originally sponsored by Senator Carlson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/19/03.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to using revenues under the county conservation
- 2 futures levy; and amending RCW 84.34.230 and 84.34.240.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.34.230 and 1995 c 318 s 8 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
- Conservation futures are a useful tool for counties to preserve lands of public interest for future generations. Counties are encouraged to use some conservation futures as one tool for salmon
- 9 <u>restoration purposes.</u>
- 10 For the purpose of acquiring conservation futures ((as well as))
- 11 and other rights and interests in real property pursuant to RCW
- 12 84.34.210 and 84.34.220, and for maintaining and operating any property
- 13 <u>acquired</u>, a county may levy an amount not to exceed ((six and one-
- $14 \quad \frac{\text{quarter}}{\text{quarter}})) \quad \underline{\text{ten}} \quad \text{cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation against}$
- 15 the assessed valuation of all taxable property within the county. The
- 16 limitations in RCW 84.52.043 shall not apply to the tax levy authorized
- 17 in this section. Any rights or interests in real property acquired
- 18 <u>under this section must be located within the assessing county.</u>

p. 1 SSB 5140

Sec. 2. RCW 84.34.240 and 1971 ex.s. c 243 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

Conservation futures are a useful tool for counties to preserve lands of public interest for future generations. Counties are encouraged to use some conservation futures as one tool for salmon restoration purposes.

- (1) Any board of county commissioners may establish by resolution a special fund which may be termed a conservation futures fund to which it may credit all taxes levied pursuant to RCW 84.34.230. Amounts placed in this fund ((may)) shall be used ((solely)) for the purpose of acquiring rights and interests in real property pursuant to the terms of RCW 84.34.210 and 84.34.220, and for the maintenance and operation of any property acquired. The amount of revenue used for maintenance and operations of parks and recreational facilities may not exceed twenty-five percent of the total amount collected from the tax levied under RCW 84.34.230 in the preceding calendar year. Revenues from this tax may not be used to supplant existing maintenance and operation funding. Any rights or interests in real property acquired under this section must be located within the assessing county.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting in any manner methods and funds otherwise available to a county for financing the acquisition of such rights and interests in real property.
- (3) In counties with a population of five hundred thousand or more, the board of county commissioners or county legislative authority shall develop a process to ensure a distribution of conservation futures funds, over time, throughout the county.

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SSB 5140 p. 2